is great dissatisfaction amongst the staff in the Division of Agricultural Extension, IARI, New Delhi;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what steps have been taken to redress their grievances?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI G. S. DHILLON): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Stress on Bio-fertilisers

*331. SHRI TALARI MANOHAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether under the Seventh Five Year Plan great stress has been laid on the development of Bio-fertilisers both symbiotic and non-symbiotic and if so, the details thereof and the work undertaken and the results achieved so far in this regard;

(b) whether it is a fact that experiments show that biofertilisers can reduce the use of chemical fertilisers by about 10-40 per cent and if so, the details of the field trials made so far and by when these results are likely to be fully achieved; and

(c) whether it is a fact that animal manure is largely being used as fuel and if diverted to agriculture would reduce the consumption of chemical fertilisers by about 50 per cent?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI G. S. DHILLON): (a) Yes, Sir. With the continuation of the National Project on development and use of biofertilisers, stress has been laid on development of both symbiotic and non-symbiotic biofertilisers during the Seventh Five Year Plan. Under the National Project sanctioned by the Government, it is proposed to produce 600 tonnes of Rhizobium culture and 600 tonnes of Blue Green Algae per annum through the establishment of one National, 8 Regional and 60 Blue Green Algae sub-centres. The estimated production of Blue Green Algae during 1984-85 and 1985-86 through these sub-centres has been of the order of 75 tonnes and 125 tonnes respectiviely. The production of Rhizobium culture could not be taken up due to the delay in the establishment of National and Regional centres.

(b) The experiments conducted have shown that application of effective Strains of 500 grammes of Rhizhobium culture and about 60-65 kilograms of nitrogon per hectare in pulses and legume oilseeds. Application of 10 kilograms of Blue Green Algae to wetland paddy adds about 25-30 kilograms of nitrogen per hectare. These biofertilisers are soil and crops specific and will augment the nitrogen availability depending on the effectiveness of the strains and specific crop. However their large scale adoption is yet to take place. The National Project has a component to popularise their use among farmers through demonstration and training programme.

(c) As no systemetic survey has been conducted on the extent of use of animal manure as a fuel, therefore, no data in this regard is available. To divert the use of animal manure as a fuel, a National Project on Biogas Development is under implementation through which both fuel and manure are obtained by the farmers. Since animal manure is bulky and has lower nutrient content, its use will not reduce significantly the consumption of chemical fertilisers which are required for fertiliser responsive high yielding varieties of crops.

Assistance for tribal hostels and Ashrams in Madhya Pradesh

*333. SHRI AJIT P. K. JOGI: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the working Group on the Seventh Five Year Plan for Tribal Development